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SOURCE As indicated

CONSTRUCTION OF DEVNYA IRRIGATION SYSTEM IN BULGARIA

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

The work on the Devnya irrigation system began 2 years ago. The system is to irrigate 28,000 decares of land near the villages of Reka Devnya, Kipra, Markovo, and Razdelna, all in Stalin Okoliya, and Devnya, Padina, and Trustikovo, all in Provadiya Okoliya. It is scheduled to begin operation during this irrigation season. (1) The plans for this year are as follows; the TKZS (Trudovo zemedelsko stopanstvo, cooperative labor farm) in the village of Devnya will irrigate 14,320 decares; the TKZS in the village of Padina, 1,470 decares; the TKZS in the village of Trustikovo, 2,140 decares; the TKZS in the villages of Kipra and Devnya [sic], 3,420 decares; the TKZS in the village of Markovo, 4,360 decares; the TKZS in the village of Razdelna, 420 decares; and the TKZS in the villages of Beloslav and Markovo (in the "Baltata" region) [sic], 3,280 decares. The TKZS in Stalin Okoliya will irrigate 6,000 decares of grain fields, 4,000 decares of corn fields, 550 decares of cotton fields, and 560 decares of sugar beet fields. A total of 10,700 decares will be irrigated by gravity flow and the remainder by pumping.

The Devnya irrigation system will obtain water from several springs. The Martsiana spring produces 800 liters of water per second; the Okoto spring, 200 liters; the Karadepsis spring, 350 liters; the Ludetina spring, 760 liters; the Adite spring, 560 liters; the Vulsheben spring, 150 liters; and all other small springs, 130 liters; totaling about 3,000 liters of water per second. By correct usage of this water, 40,000 decares can be irrigated.

The water of the Martsiana spring is collected at the main (No 1) pumping station, is raised to a height of 40 meters, then flows into the two principal canals, R-2 and R-4. Canal R-2 will irrigate the TKZS fields

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in the villages of Belene, Padina, and Trustikovo, and Canal R-4 will irrigate the TKZS fields in the villages of Kipra and Markovo. The second pumping station (No 2) is located on Canal R-4. From here, an aqueduct conveys some of the water to Trunk Canal R-3, which will /also/ irrigate the TKZS fields in the villages of Kipra and Markovo.

From the main pumping station, a second pipeline carries water to a height of 60 meters. The pipeline, 500 meters long, will be made of asbestos cement pipes produced in a Bulgarian asbestos cement plant. It will supply water to Trunk Canal R-1, which will irrigate the TKZS fields in the villages of Devnya and Padina. Trunk canals R-1, R-2, and R-4 are fed by the Martsiana spring.

Canal R-7 will convey water from the Karadepsis and Okoto springs to irrigate the fields of the TKZS in the villages of Devnya, Trustikovo, and Razdelna. Canal R-5 will convey water from the Ludetina spring to irrigate the TKZS fields in the village of Markovo. Water from the Devnya River will be carried by Canal R-6 to the TKZS fields in the village of Devnya.

The main pumping station will have four pumping units, two pumps with a capacity of 300 liters per second each, and two pumps with a capacity of 400 liters per second each. From the pumping station, the water will flow through the Trunk canals into the auxiliary canals. (2) The pumping units /from both pumping stations/ will produce a total of 2,200 liters of water per second. One pumping station is completed, while the other has not yet been installed.

The irrigation system consists of about 60 kilometers of trunk canals and 180 kilometers of auxiliary canals. Three of the auxiliary canals are completed. Much work must still be done on the dikes in Provadiya Okoliya, especially near Devnya. However, mainly because of the labor shortage, work is not proceeding as scheduled. The party committee in Provadiya Okoliya has neglected to explain the importance of the work to the people in the okoliya.

There is also a shortage of instruments and tools. As a result, on one occasion 450 people reported for work, but only 100 could be used. Engineer Ivan Mangurov, director of the "Vodostroy" office in Stalin, and Engineer Bozhkov (fnu), director of the central administration of "Vodostroy" (which is attached to the Ministry of Agriculture), are providing poor leadership in building the irrigation system.

Iron pipes for pumps and other materials have not been supplied on time. The building of the aqueduct is lagging because lumber was not supplied. (1)

The irrigation system should have been completed by 1 May 1953. (2)

SOURCES

1. Sofia, Robotnichesko Delo, 22 May 53
2. Sofia, Za Kooperativno Zemedelie, 12 Apr 53

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